

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 10 are amended for clarity. Claim 14 also is amended as described below. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Support for the amendment to the claims may be found at, for example, Fig. 5B.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner is requested to consider the information identified in the attached Information Disclosure Statement.

II. Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 14 are object to because in claim 1 the phrase "...the alignment controlling elements each having a linear portion that extends across one dot region" is allegedly not supported by the specification, and because claim 14 (depending from claim 10) adds features that are already recited in claim 10.

Claim 1 is amended to clarify that one linear portion (of an alignment controlling element) extends across the reflective display region of a dot region and another extends across the transmissive display region of the dot region.

Claim 14 is amended to include this feature.

Applicant submits the amendments to claims 1 and 14 overcome the claim objections. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

III. Claim Rejections

Claims 10, 13-15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0149728 (Ogishima); claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ogishima in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,806,929 (Chen); claims 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ogishima in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,753,939 (Jisaki); claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ogishima in view of U.S. Patent No.

6,195,140 (Kubo); claims 2 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ogishima in view of Kubo and further in view of Chen; and claims 6, 7, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ogishima in view of Kubo and further in view of Jisaki. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that the applied references teach all of the features of the claims. However, the applied references fail to disclose, teach or suggest that the alignment controlling elements each have a linear portion that extends across one dot region, as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, the applied references fail to teach or suggest that the distance between alignment controlling elements in the same island-shaped reflective display region are separated by a smaller distance than the alignment controlling elements in the transmissive display region of the same dot, as recited in claim 10.

The protrusions indicated by the Office Action in Fig. 20A of Ogishima are in different island-shaped reflective regions and in different dots.

Chen, Jisaki, Kubo, in any combination, fail to remedy the deficiencies of Ogishima discussed above.

For the forgoing reasons, claims 1 and 10, as well as the claims depending therefrom are not anticipated or rendered obvious by the applied references.

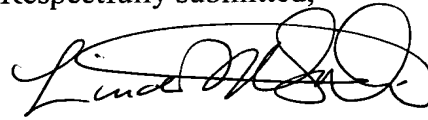
Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Linda M. Saltiel
Registration No. 51,122

JAO:LMS/eks

Attachments:

Information Disclosure Statement
Request for Continued Examination

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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